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Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 08715 171312Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 /025 W
----------172150Z 113166 /66
R 171058Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4170
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMCONSUL MADRAS

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: ECM, IN
SUBJ: PHARMACEUTICALS: AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON BAHUGUNA, MINISTER OF CHEMICLAS, FERTILIZER AND PETROLEUM

1. IN THE COURSE OF A COURTESY CALL ON THE MINISTER OF CHEMICLAS, FERTILIZER AND PETROLEUM, H., BAHUGUNA, THE AMBASSADOR BROUGHT UP THE PROBLEMS OF US PHARAMACEUTICAL COMPANIES OPERATING IN INDIA. HE SAID THAT WHAT THEY WOULD LIKE MOST WAS A CLEAR POLICY ON HOW THEY WERE TO BE PERMITTED TO OPERATE IN INIDA. THE AMBASSADOR VOICED HOPE THAT THE FIRMS WOULD BE PERMITTED TO IMPORT MORE TECHNOLOGY SINCE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO INDIA AS WELL AS THE INDUSTRY.

2. BAHUGUNA RESPONDED THAT HE WAS NOT A "TOUCH ME NOT" AGAINST MULTI-NATIONAL FIRMS. ON THE PHARMACEUTICAL SIDE HE HAD ONLY ONE OBJECTIVE: TO GET THE PRICE OF DRUGS DOWN TO A POINT WHERE THEY WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO THE BROAD MASSES OF THE INDIAN PEOPLE. THE MINISTER STATED THAT BEFORE DECIDING ON ANY POLICY, HE WAS CALLING IN ALL ASSOCIATIONS RELATED TO THE INDUSTRY AND ASKING
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EACH ONE HOW THEY WOULD GO ABOUT REACHING HIS OBJECTIVE. BASED ON THEIR RESPONSE HE WOULD MAKE A DECISION ON WHAT SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE NEW POLICY ON PHARMACEUTICALS.

3. ON THE IMPORT OF MORE DRUG TECHNOLOGY HE SAID THAT INDIA HAD A LARGE PUBLIC SECTOR WHICH HAD BROUGHT IN DRUG TECHNOLOGY FROM A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES BEGINNING

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WITH THE SOVIET UNION. THE MINISTER ALSO MENTIONED THAT HIS PREDECESSOR HAD ARRANGED SOME TIE-UP WITH A LARGE ITALIAN GROUP WHICH HAD SAID THEY COULD PROVIDE MUCH CHEAPER DRUGS IN INDIA AS WELL AS A BROAD RANGE OF DRUGS. HE DID NOT KNOW HOW THIS ARRANGEMENT WOULD WORK OUT, HOWEVER, BUT SAID "WE SHALL SEE".

4. COMMENT: BASED ON OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE MINISTER'S REMARKS AND INFORMATION FROM OFFICIAL AND TRADE CONTACTS, WE DO NOT EXPECT A COMPREHENSIVE DRUG POLICY TO EMERGE AT LEAST BEFORE AUGUST.
GOHEEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG INDUSTRY, INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2113033
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PHARMACEUTICALS: AMBASSADOR\'S CALL ON BAHUGUNA, MINISTER OF CHEMICLAS, FERTILIZER AND PETROLEUM
TAGS: ECEM, EIND, IN
To: STATE
Type: TE
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